

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend paragraph 28 of the application with the following:

[0028] Most preferably, the optical drive controller 30 issues a control signal through its communication port [44]48 that is received by a communication port 46 in the laser diode driver 32 to switch the laser diode driver 32 into a calibration mode. When the calibration process is completed or no longer desired, the optical drive controller 30 issues a control signal through the communication ports [44]48, 46 to return the laser diode driver 32 to a normal operation mode. Also, the optical drive controller 30 is preferably capable of programming the characteristics or parameters of the laser diode driver 32 through the communication ports [44]48, 46.